

I call on you to hold an official public hearing in my state.

Media outlets run by mega-corporations do not provide a fair and balanced media. I know; I work for a media giant which has succumbed to political pressure for fear of its decisions affecting other of its business units.

Localisation of the media is important to allow the local community to hear its issues and make its voice heard.

The American Public wants a free press: one unencumbered by the self-interests of mega-media moguls.

Before the disastrous 2003 decision to weaken media ownership rules (which a federal court has now overturned), you held only one official public hearing. Further, FCC officials met behind closed doors 71 times with major broadcasters – but only five times with public interest groups. And to justify your actions, you used deceptive, industry-sponsored research data.

The will of Big Media had been heeded at the expense of American citizens and democracy itself. This has to end. Before you rewrite the ownership rules, I demand an official public FCC hearing in my state, impartial and verifiable research, and transparent debates.

It is time to put the needs of democracy – a diverse, skeptical, independent and competitive media system – ahead of profit-hungry media giants.